

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 03219 141456Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /034 W
-----102313 141458Z /43

P 141158Z MAR 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7141

UNCLAS LAGOS 3219

E.O. 11652 : NA
TAGS : OVIP(CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJ : PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: BRIEFING PAPER

REF: AMBASSADOR'S LETTER OF DECEMBER 15 TO THOMAS SMITH, AF/W

THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS CONTAIN THE MISSION'S PROPOSED TEXT
FOR THE BRIEFING PAPER ON "EDUCATION OF NIGERIANS IN THE U.S.-
US. TEACHERS IN NIGERIA" BEING PREPARED FOR THE PRESIDENT'S
VISIT TO NIGERIA.

1. EDUCATION IS "A DYNAMIC INSTRUMENT OF CHANGE," ACCORDING
TO THE RECENT NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER ON NATIONAL
POLICY ON EDUCATION. THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS
LAUNCHED AN AMBITIOUS PLAN WHICH BY 1980 INTENDS TO BRING
UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION, EXPAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND
SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN UNIVERSITY
PROFESSORS TEACHING IN NIGERIA. THE PLAN ALSO ENVISAGES
THE EXPANSION OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

2. ALTHOUGH EXACT FIGURES ARE DIFFICULT TO COME BY, WE
ESTIMATE THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST 15,000 NIGERIAN STUDENTS
IN THE UNITED STATES, MOST OF THEM SELF-SUPPORTING, MAKING
NIGERIA THIRD IN NUMBER OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN U.S. SCHOOLS. OF
THAT NUMBER, SOME 4000-5000 ARE SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS.

THERE HAVE BEEN ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS WITH THIS PROGRAM;
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 03219 141456Z

NOTABLY LATE PAYMENT OR NON-PAYMENT OF THEIR STIPENDS AND
TUITION, LEADING SOME AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES TO REFUSE THESE
STUDENTS UNLESS A FULL YEAR'S FEES ARE DEPOSITED IN ADVANCE.
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS CONTINUING ITS CONSULTATIONS
WITH BOTH NIGERIAN OFFICIALS AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR FOREIGN STUDENT AFFAIRS TO HELP THEM FIND SOLUTIONS TO
THIS PROBLEM.

3. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM. 285# ,8&348- #- ?33, 5#3)-4&3 5 8, -*48:-, INVOLVING SOME 1,000 NIGERIANS AND ABOUT 900 AMERICANS SINCE 1960. THESE NUMBERS REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE ROUGHLY 16,000 AMERICAN-AFRICAN EXCHANGES DURING THAT PERIOD. AMONG THE ACADEMIC EXCHANGES, THERE ARE CURRENTLY SEVEN U.S. SENIOR FULBRIGHT PROFESSORS TEACHING IN NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES AND EIGHT JUNIOR NIGERIAN RESEARCH SCHOLARS WILL BE DOING RESEARCH IN THE U.S. DURING THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR UNDER THE SAME LEGISLATION. IN ADDITION, NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES HAVE HIRED AN ESTIMATED 150 AMERICANS TO TEACH THERE.

4. THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT(AID) HAS LONG BEEN INVOLVED IN NIGERIAN EDUCATION, EPITOMIZED BY ITS LONG-TERM CONTRACT WITH MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY TO ASSIST THE UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA AT NSUKKA. THE PHASING-OUT OF BILATERAL AID BROUGHT TO AN END SUCH AID PROJECTS AS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LINKAGES BETWEEN U.S. AND NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURAL SKILLS AT THE UNIVERSITIES OF LAGOS (UCLA AND COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY), IE (UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN) AND AHMADU BELLO (KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURG). AID ALSO PROVIDED A GRANT TO THE OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER TO CONDUCT VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN LAGOS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 03219 141456Z

5. RECENTLY THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTED ASSISTANCE WITH TWO PROJECTS: TO TRAIN 17,000 MID-LEVEL TECHNICIANS AND TO RECRUIT AMERICAN PROFESSORS FOR NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES. AID HAS REPLIED TO BOTH PROJECTS. OVER 1,000 NIGERIAN STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ENROLLED IN AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS. THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT IS PAYING ALL COSTS AND, GIVEN THE HIGH COST OF THESE PROGRAMS, WILL PROBABLY SCALE DOWN ITS ORIGINAL REQUEST.

6. THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE(USIS), THE BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND AID HAVE BEEN COLLABORATING TO ASSIST THE NIGERIANS IN THE RAPID EXPANSION OF THEIR UNIVERSITIES FROM SIX TO THIRTEEN. AS A PART OF THIS PROGRAM, A NIGERIAN OFFICIAL HAS JUST ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE OF THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION(NUC) TO ENCOURAGE LINKAGES BETWEEN NIGERIAN AND AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AND RECRUIT AMERICAN PROFESSORS TO TEACH IN NIGERIA. THE OVERSEAS LIAISON COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION IS WORKING WITH THE NUC IN THIS EFFORT.

7. AMONG PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS, FORD AND ROCKEFELLER HAVE PRO-

VIDED A WIDE VARIETY OF GRANTS TO MOST OF THE NIGERIAN
UNIVERSITIES, ESPECIALLY FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND FOR RE-
SEARCH. FORD, ROCKEFELLER AND AID COOPERATED TO ESTABLISH
AND RUN THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE
AT IBADAN, WHICH IS IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF TROPICAL FOOD
PRODUCTS.
EASUM

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS03219
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780113-0348
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780372/aaaacirj.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 08ecf5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3342713
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: BRIEFING PAPER
TAGS: OVIP, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/08ecf5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014